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Concert: National Flute Association Convention

Christopher Hughes

Wendy Mehne

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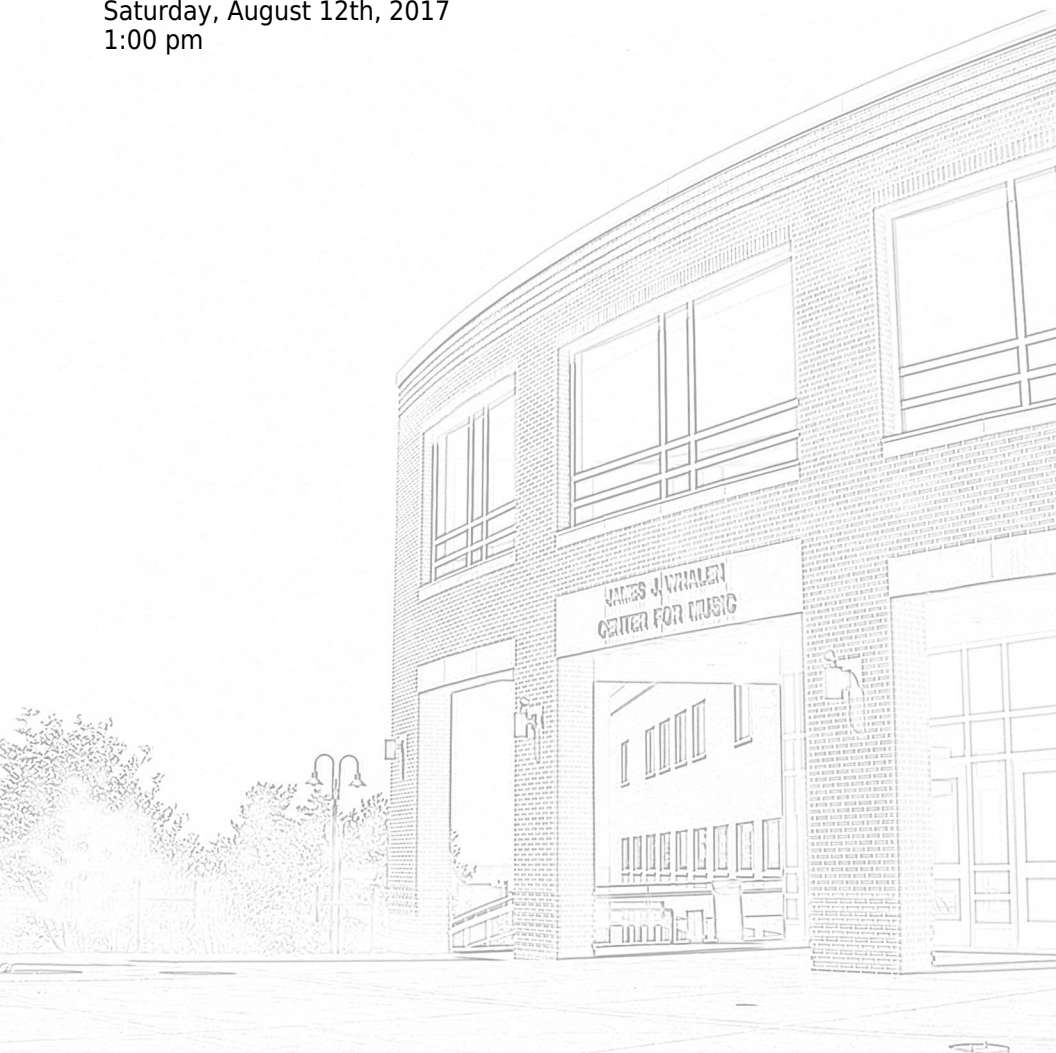
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National Flute Association Convention

Wendy Herbener Mehne, flute
Christopher Hughes, conductor
Dana Wilson, composer

Minneapolis Convention Center Auditorium 2
Saturday, August 12th, 2017
1:00 pm



ITHACA COLLEGE

School of Music

The Conjuror (2015)

Dana Wilson
(b. 1946)

Incantation
Dance of Exorcism
Recessional

National Flute Association Convention Premiere

Ithaca College gratefully acknowledges Fred Laub '71 for his financial support of the Beverly Baker '54 School of Music Ensemble Travel Fund, which made this performance possible.

Program Notes

"The Conjuror" is inspired by the world's shamanic traditions. The piece is ritualistic, while not trying to replicate any particular tradition.

A shaman is a person regarded as having access to, and influence in, the world of good and evil spirits, especially among some peoples of northern Asia and the Americas. Typically such people enter a trance state during a ritual, and practice divination and healing. "Conjuror" is the related English term (originating in middle English: "con" ("with") + "jurare" ("law"))--a person who has the power to solemnly call upon spirits by invocation or spell.

The flutist in this piece is the conjurer, who in the first movement calls forth the spirits. As they emerge, the spirits begin a ritualistic dance, hesitant at first but then ever more intensely, as the flute's conjuring commands. Finally, the conjurer departs, having accomplished both exorcism and ablution.

A consortium of flutists and ensembles commissioned The Conjuror headed by Ithaca College flute alumnus, Gabe Southard '94 who gave the world premiere performance in April 2015. Wendy Herbener Mehne gave the Northeast premiere in October 2015 and released the premiere recording of the piece in August 2016. The performance at the 2017 National Flute Association Convention will be a convention premiere. The Conjuror was awarded "Best New Composition for Flute" for 2016 by the Flute New Music Consortium.

Chamber Ensemble

Ithaca College School of Music students and alumni

Jacob Gunnar Walsh, oboe - BM performance & music composition '15

Brooke Miller, clarinet - MM performance '17

Erin Dowler, clarinet - BM performance & music education '18

Emma Grey, clarinet - BM performance '18

Bryan Filetto, bass clarinet - BM music education '19

Andrew Meys, bassoon - BM performance '17

Michael Stern, trumpet - BM performance & music education '18

Jeremy Straus, horn - BM with an outside field '18

Julia Dombroski, trombone - BM performance '18

Lillian Fu, percussion - BM performance & music education '17

Katherine McInerney, percussion - BM performance '19

James Lorusso, piano - BM performance '18

Erik Kibelsbeck, tour manager - MM orchestral conducting '01

School of Music Manager of Concerts and Facilities